8th August 1929]

Marine

Excess expenditure in harbour works.

* 102 Q.—Mr. A. Ranganatha Mudaliyar: Will the hon. the Law Member be pleased to state with reference to the Accountant-General's letter to the Secretary to Government, Finance (Marine) Department, dated 12th/15th December 1928, No. T. H. 702—

(a) the several items in the harbour scheme which have exceeded their estimated provision together with the reasons therefor, the cost in respect of the two rival schemes, one at Hare Island and another at Tuticorin and the financial implications of the stoppage of the capital works at Tuticorin, pending the preparation of the detailed estimates;

(b) the loss, in all ways, sustained by the Government owing to the non-use of the dredger 'St. David' for nearly $3\frac{1}{2}$ years except for short periods; and

(c) the steps, if any, taken or proposed to be taken by the Government in the matter?

A.—(a) A statement[a] is laid on the table showing the items of the sanctioned Tuticorin Scheme estimates on which excesses have already occurred or are expected to arise by the end of 1929-30 together with the reasons for the excesses. The revised estimates have been sanctioned by Government.

According to the estimates prepared by the Harbour Engineer in Chief, the cost of the schemes for Tuticorin is as follows:—

Tuticorin Town Scheme.

	Estimated cost. LAKHS. RS.
With about 100 acres of reclamation	$152\frac{1}{2}$
With about 200 acres of reclamation as suggested by Advisory Committee	$162\frac{1}{2}$

Note 1.—No credit allowed for value of reclamation or surplus plant on completion of job.

Note 2.—Includes all expenditure incurred on old scheme.

Hare Island Scheme.

	RS.
With about 66 [1] acres of reclamation	120
Alternative recommended by the Harbour Engineer in Chief with 75 [1] acres of reclamation	123

[1] In addition to spare land already there.

In each of above a sum of three lakhs has been provided for godowns to be given on favourable terms to applicants who at present hold godowns in Tuticorin.

In each of above a sum of Rs. 4·25 lakhs has been provided for road connexion between Hare Island and Tuticorin.

Note 1.—No credit allowed for reclamation or surplus plant on completion of job.

Note 2.—Includes all expenditure incurred on old scheme.

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[a] Printed as Appendix II on page 332 infra.

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The Accountant-General has not yet reported to Government on the financial implications of the stoppage, as mentioned in the letter referred to.

(*b*) According to an Inspection report furnished by the Accountant-General in July 1928 docking and repair charges incurred on the dredger "St. David" during the period of $3\frac{1}{2}$ years referred to works out to Rs. 6,000 approximately for 1926–27 and 1927–28 and in addition there is a recurring monthly expenditure of about Rs. 35 towards the wages of watchmen, etc.

(*c*) The steps to be taken depend on the decision as to the future work to be undertaken at Tuticorin.

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"May I know who will shoulder the burden of $162\frac{1}{2}$ lakhs for expenditure on the Harbour Works?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"The Port Conservancy Board ultimately."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Is there a Port Trust Board at Tuticorin?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"There is a Port Trust Board."

Mr. J. A. SALDANHA :—"Have the Government made enquiries whether the Port Trust of Tuticorin are prepared to shoulder this burden?"

The hon. Diwan Bahadur M. KRISHNAN NAYAR :—"That is under correspondence, I think."

Assignment of Lands

Area of land reserved in the village of Chitrap, Mangalore taluk, for common village purposes.

* 103 Q.—Mr. J. A. SALDANHA : With reference to my question No. 1350 answered on 1st February 1929, will the hon. the Member for Revenue be pleased to state—

(*a*) what the area was in the village of Chitrap, Mangalore taluk, South Kanara, which has been reserved for common village purposes, grazing or straying about of cattle, for the meeting place of the villagers for recreation and other purposes, apart from roads and footpaths, before the recent assignments to particular communities;

(*b*) what area out of this village or common or waste has been assigned to depressed classes, Mogers (fishermen by caste), Billavars (tappers by caste) or any other community;

(*c*) whether any area and if so what remains at least for the roaming about of cattle and for other common purposes of villages after such assignments and apart from public village roads and paths, public schools and taverns;

(*d*) whether in 1925 the Collector had refused assignment of any portion of this waste on the ground that it was the only available waste in the village;

(*e*) if so, under what circumstances and for what reasons plots have been assigned to the three communities;